

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a Host Computer system, which receives information from the Internet, rasterizes it, compresses it and transmits it to a portable device which decompresses the image to display it on a screen. The Host Computer may also transmit to another computer outfitted with a modem. The Host Computer which contains an operating system, has a variety of peripheral device driver software installed to enable interacting with these peripheral devices via a parallel port, serial port, USB port, or other types of ports. Hence, when a peripheral device related command is executed, data is sent from the peripheral device driver software to the selected port on the Host Computer and is intercepted by another software unit, which may compress this data and subsequently diverts it to the portable device via modem. The particular type of peripheral device dedicated to the peripheral device driver software in the Host Computer is connected to the portable device or computer, and the compressed data received is decompressed by the portable device or computer and sent to the corresponding port. This method allows the user to interface with a wide variety of peripheral devices at portable locations without the need for peripheral device driver software installed at the remote location.